



CALPEEK

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Dick Rosengarten, Publisher

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S.F. MAYOR ELECTION: CAN AGNOS BE STOPPED?

Editor's note: In last week's issue of CALPEEK we ran numbers from a recent poll leaked to the news media which showed incumbent S.F. Mayor Art Agnos at only 29%. That's not especially good news with the election 8 months away. However, the question being asked among insiders is whether the current field of candidates has the clout to defeat Agnos? Here is CALPEEK's brief update...

...Defeating an incumbent mayor such as Art Agnos won't be easy. For starters, Agnos is an excellent fundraiser, and despite a \$500 contribution limit in S.F., he should have a large war chest by the time November rolls around. In addition, Agnos has assembled a formidable campaign team. Richie Ross is the lead consultant; Larry Tramuola is set to handle field ops; and Mary Hughes will do daily management. It's the same experienced team that guided Agnos' first successful mayor's race in 1987...

...So why do some insiders think Agnos is vulnerable? A variety of reasons. The progressives (LIBERALS) are disappointed that Agnos has not lived up to his campaign promises; conservatives are mad about taxes and waste in government; and the neighborhood activists are upset about Agnos' support for big development projects in the city. Some say he's trying to be all things to all people, and that doesn't work in San Francisco...

...From the right side, Agnos is under attack from Frank Jordan, the city's ex chief of police; and S.F. Co. Sup. Tom Hsieh. Jordan has hired consultant Jack Davis, while Hsieh has retained consultant Jerry Austin from Ohio. Austin is best known for his work on behalf of Demo Jesse Jackson. On the left side of the political arena, Agnos may soon come under

fire from S.F. Co. Assessor Richard Hongisto. He has yet to settle on a campaign team, but Michael Terris & Eric Jaye ran his successful campaign for assessor last year. Hongisto could pose serious problems for Agnos because he cuts into Agnos' key base of support among the progressives and the city's large gay population...

...If you're wondering about State Sen. Quentin Kopp (I-S.F.), the former supervisor took himself out of the running last year and is encouraging both Jordan and Hsieh to stay in the race. Kopp recently did a news conference with Hsieh, at which time they announced an initiative to do away with the position of S.F. Deputy Mayor. Under previous mayors there were 1 or 2, but under Agnos as many as 7. As for Jordan, Kopp rode by his side in the recent Chinese New Years Day Parade. For now, Kopp isn't taking sides and is comfortable with his role as powerbroker. However, CALPEEK should note that consultant Jack Davis (who is running Jordan's campaign) is a longtime political operative for Kopp and the two are very close. Stay tuned...

LOW VOTER TURNOUTS IN 3 SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

Editor's note: If there was a trend in the most recent round of 3 special elections Mar. 19, it was that voters were NOT interested in the process and stayed away in large numbers. Here is CALPEEK's report and analysis...

- 1st S.D. - This State senate district which takes in 13 No. Calif. counties had a 24.3% turnout. The leading vote getter was Assemblyman Tim Leslie (R-Sacto), who got 42.9%. Second place finisher was Siskiyou Co. Sup. Patti Mattingly (D), who got 31.4%.

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In 3rd place was El Dorado Co. Sup. Bob Dorr(R), with 19.1%. He was blown away by the Leslie juggernaut. Consultant Jim Nygren may have had concerns about sinking most of Leslie's money in a VBM (vote by mail) program, but it really paid off in the end. For Mattingly and the Demos, the question becomes can anything be done to stop Leslie? Several CALPEEK sources feel it will be very tough for Mattingly to defeat Leslie in the May 14th runoff, but the Senate Demo Leadership has to try, as an upset win by Mattingly would give the Demos a veto-proof 27 votes in the upper house...

- 35th S.D. - This State senate district in conservative Orange County had only a pathetic 13.6% voter turnout. The leading vote getter was conservative Assemblyman John Lewis, who got 29.9%. Assemblyman Nolan Frizzelle(R) got 17.8%, Assemblywoman Doris Allen(R) got 15.8%, while attorney Dana Reed(R) managed only 13.7%. A handful of other GOPers got about 10%, as did Demo Francis X. Frank Hoffman. The runoff is May 14, but since Hoffman is not considered a serious contender, Lewis is a slam dunk winner. Like the 1st S.D., Lewis campaign consultants Huckaby-Rodriguez went with a strong VBM program and it worked. The negative stuff about Lewis' involvement in the 1986 Phony White House Letters Case had NO IMPACT...

...With Lewis a slam dunk for election, the jockeying has already started to see who will replace him in the 67th A.D. Former GOP Assemblyman Curt Pringle, who was bounced from the 72nd A.D. last year, is making noise, as is Anaheim Mayor Fred Hunter(R). GOP activist/businessman Jeff Thomas is also sounding out support...

- 26th A.D. - This San Joaquin County district saw a 23% voter turnout. The leading vote getter was GOP businessman Dean Andal, who got 27.9%. The leading Demo contender was Patti Garamendi, wife of CA's Insurance Commissioner, John. She received 26.5% of the vote. Next was Demo activist Dario Marengo with 20.1%. Stockton school board member Annie Stallworth was 3rd among the Demos with 10.8%, while Stockton Councilwoman Loralee McGaughey got 10.5% to finish 4th. Consultant Richie Ross ran Garamendi's campaign, aided by an independent expenditure by CALPAC (CA Medical Assn.'s

PAC) to the tune of \$25,000 for a VBM program directed by consultant Rose King. Consultant Steve Presson ran Andal's effort. Even though the 26th A.D. has a Demo registration edge, the May 14 runoff could be a close election because Andal should be well financed. ABORTION could be a major issue in the runoff, with Andal being PRO-LIFE and Garamendi being PRO-CHOICE...

...FYI: The BIG losers in 2 of the 3 races were PRO-CHOICE Republican candidates Bob Dorr and Dana Reed - both of whom got money and endorsements from PRO-CHOICE groups but were crushed by PRO-LIFE Republican candidates. True, both senate districts where these two were running are very conservative areas...

U.S. REP. CAMPBELL RUNS FOR CRANSTON'S JOB. Two-term GOP U.S. Rep. Tom Campbell of Palo Alto has announced he will run in the June 1992 Republican primary for the U.S. Senate seat now held by Demo Alan Cranston, who is retiring. Campbell's announcement came 5 days after his GOP ally, former congressman Ed Zschau of Menlo Park, announced that he would NOT run in 1992. For several months political insiders have been watching these two, knowing that one or the other (but not both) would run in 1992. Zschau said he couldn't run because of business considerations...

...Campbell is a MODERATE and on his 4-city announcement tour last week he openly talked about his PRO-CHOICE stance and his environmental credentials (he's opposed to offshore drilling). He backed Pres. Bush on the Gulf War resolution in early January and CALPEEK sources say his votes are good on foreign policy issues - especially the touchy Middle East. On fiscal policy, he is very PRO-BUSINESS. Campbell says his brand of politics is called "New Conservatism" but conservative hardliners are NOT impressed...

...Prior to his election in the 12th C.D. in 1988, the 39-year-old Campbell was a professor of international law, trade and economics at Stanford University. In late 1987, GOP moderates, including Zschau and David Packard, urged Campbell to challenge freshman GOP congressman Ernie Konnyu, a conservative who really didn't fit the moderate demographics of the district. Camp-

bell trounced Konnyu and then squeezed by Demo Anna Eschoo in the general by a 51.3% to 46.4% margin. Last year, Campbell mashed Demo Robert Palmer by a 60% to 34% margin...

...There's little doubt Campbell has the ability to raise money (he's got lots of well-healed GOP contributors in the Silicon Valley). But he'll need everything he can get his hands on because he is completely UNKNOWN in vote-rich So. Calif. And building name ID is expensive. Ed Zschau was in the same situation 6 years ago and with consultant Ron Smith's help, plus about \$1-2 million in an early TV buy, Zschau went from Mr. Unknown to win the GOP primary in 1986. No, Campbell hasn't hired Smith as yet, but he probably will. Smith ran Campbell's last two campaigns and coordinated the 4-city announcement tour...

...Although they haven't announced yet, it is likely Campbell will have some conservative company in the GOP primary. Most insiders feel TV/radio commentator Bruce Herschensohn will make another run and the odds are pretty good that U.S. Rep. Bob Dornan(R-Garden Grove) also will run. In a recent Calif. Poll, Herschensohn led in a 3-way race --- 19% to 18% for both Campbell and Dornan, with a huge 45% undecided...

...FYI: The race for Campbell's 12th C.D. seat is now on. On the GOP side, insiders say Assemblyman Charles Quackenbush of San Jose and San Mateo Co. Sup. Tom Huenig(R) are VERY serious about running. Also expressing serious interest is Intel Corp.'s Michael C. Maibach, director of Govt. Affairs. Other names to surface are former Assemblyman Bob Naylor and yes - Big Ernie Konnyu. On the Demo side, San Mateo Co. Sup. Anna Eschoo is said to be looking...

CALIF. TRANSPORTATION TOPIC FOR L.A. GROUP.

L.A. Current Affairs Forum will sponsor a panel discussion on "Meeting So. Calif.'s Transportation Needs," on Apr. 11 with SCAG exec. director Mark Pisano, Assembly Trans. Comm. Chair Richard Katz, L.A.C.T.C. member Jacki Bacharach and CA Trans. Commissioner Kenneth Kevorkian - 6 p.m. reception & buffet, 7 p.m. panel discussion, Lawry's CA Center in L.A. For info & RSVPs, contact Emma Shafer at (213)445-8862...

U.S. ENGLISH FILES ACTION AGAINST DEMOS.

U.S. English, the organization which promotes English as the official language of the U.S., has filed a civil lawsuit in Alameda Co. Superior Court against the Democratic Nat'l Committee(DNC) and the Calif. Demo Party(CDP), charging that the group's 1st amendment rights were violated at the recent CDP convention (Mar. 1-3) in Oakland. U.S. English had rented a table at the convention, but were asked to leave the gathering after a group of demonstrators began heckling and shouting at the two female representatives of U.S. English. The CDP refunded the \$2,000 paid by U.S. English, but the group is seeking a formal apology, with a promise this won't happen again and compensation for the two staff members. U.S. English has retained the S.F. law firm of Dinkelspiel, Donovan & Reder, while the DNC has William Cross and the CDP has Sacto-based Olson, Connelly, Hagel & Fong. QUESTION: Knowing that U.S. English is a controversial group, especially among Hispanics, why would the CDP even rent them a table? Stay tuned...

DEMO CONTROLLER DAVIS ANNOUNCES FOR SENATE.

Demo State Controller Gray Davis, the former CA Assemblyman and COS to former Gov. Jerry Brown, announced his intent to run for the U.S. Senate in 1992. But he hasn't made a decision as to which of the 2 seats he'll run for. Davis said he has filed the paperwork to set up an exploratory group...

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46th A.D. SPECIAL: NEW CANDIDATES JUMP IN.
The special election battle to replace former Assemblyman Mike Roos(D-L.A.) has shifted from low to high gear, as the list of potential candidates has nearly DOUBLED since CALPEEK's last report, where we listed 6 candidates. Here's the old list: attorney Bob Burke; Asst. L.A. City Atty. John Emerson; ex-Roos COS-PA exec. Peter Taylor; Deputy L.A. City Controller Barbara Friedman; State Senate Budget Committee consultant Keith Umamoto; and Demo/Asian American activist Joslyn Yap...

...New additions are attorney T.S. Chung; ex-Roos COS John Wasielewski; public health-UCLA administrator Kathleen Torres; former Asst. U.S. Atty. Adam Schiff; and former Roos staffer Mike Cacciotti. As far as CALPEEK can determine, all these candidates are Demos. NO GOP names as yet...

...CALPEEK sources confirm that at least 2 new polls have been taken: one by Fairbank, Bregman & Maullin for Emerson and another by J. Moore Methods for the Calif Medical Assn. Results of the two polls are under wraps - meaning that the data probably doesn't show much in terms of how the various candidates do when matched against one another. Beyond that, these candidates have almost NO name ID in the 46th A.D...

...As for professional campaign managers, the 46th A.D. special (which some think will be called for June 4 - to coincide with the L.A. City runoff election) amounts to the Consultants Full Employment Act of 1991. Here's the rundown:

...Burke has hired Dick Pabich for direct mail, Larry Tramutola for field ops and Larry Kaplan for press; Emerson has hired Skelton-Grover & Assoc.; Taylor has hired Marathon Communications and consultant Marc Litchman; Barbara Friedman has hired Berman & D'Agostino Campaigns; Cacciotti has hired Rick Taylor. And CALPEEK sources confirm that Torres has hired Gale Kaufman of Sacramento, while Chung has hired Cerrell Associates of L.A...

...FYI: The 46th A.D. is one of the lowest in terms of overall voter registration (the 56th A.D. of Demo Lucille Roybal Allard of East L.A. is lowest with 56,000). The 46th A.D. has 65,000 voters. In specials this

year, the turnout is averaging under 25%, meaning a total vote of about 16,500 is likely. With 6-8 viable candidates, the top vote-getter may take the prize with just 2,000 or 3,000 votes. Stay tuned...

WATER WARS: DELTA '91 CONFAB APRIL 11-13.
The Contra Costa Water District will hold its 3rd conference on water (Delta '91: A Decade of Decision), April 11 to 13 at the Concord Sheraton Hotel, Concord. The conference theme is "Who Gets The Water?" In conjunction with the meeting, the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife will hold a field hearing, chaired by Assemblyman Dom Cortese(D-San Jose). Peripheral Canal and U.S. vs. Calif. Water Resources Board will be among the panel discussions. For info, call Sue Gamba (415)674-8190...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook:

- Legislative advocates D.J. Smith and Joseph J. Ackler Jr. have formed a new partnership under the name Smith & Ackler, 915 "L" St., Ste. 1440, Sacto 95814, (916)446-5508...

- L.A.-based PA/campaign mgt. firm The Dolphin Group has opened a new office in Sacto, with VP Michael Boccadoro and AE Michel Murphy holding down the fort at 1225 8th St., Ste. 425, Sacto 95814, (916) 441-4383...

- CA Society of CPA's has a new office at 1201 "K" St., Ste. 1000, Sacto 95814, (916)441-5351...

- Dan Greenblatt named special asst. to new San Diego Co. Sheriff Jim Roache. Greenblatt had been with Stoorza, Zieghaus & Metzger's S.D. PA office prior to this...

- Political consultant/PR specialist Eric Rose gets a temporary assignment helping Citizens In Support of the Chief of Police --- a new group supporting L.A.P.D. Chief Daryl Gates...

- A sad note: Shirley Goldinger, the first director of L.A. County's Dept. of Consumer Affairs and former CA Demo Party Women's Chair, died of complications after surgery, Mar. 6, in L.A. R.I.P....